

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00888 302046Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INR-07 CIAE-00 PM-04
L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02
TRSE-00 H-01 DODE-00 INRE-00 /054 W
-----013187 302058Z /75
O 302001Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7423
INFO COMICEDEFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0888

EUR/NE FOR DON DONCHI

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, IC
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL STUDY ON INADEQUACY OF NATO
ATLANTIC DEFENSES: GUIDANCE REQUESTED

1. SENIOR EDITOR OF LEADING DAILY MORGUNBLADID STYRMIR
GUNNARSSON CONTACTED CHARGE' AND INFORMED HIM OF STORY BEING
CARRIED ON AP WIRELESS FILE CONCERNING STUDY RELEASED BY
CONGRESSIONAL
BUDGET OFFICE RESEARCHERS AT 1600 GMT TODAY (JUNE 30) IN WHICH
ALLEGED
INADEQUACIES OF U.S. AND NATO DEFENSES IN NORTH ATLANTIC
WERE HIGHLIGHTED. GUNNARSSON STATED THAT ONE FACTOR THAT WAS
ESPECIALLY DISCONCERTING FROM POINT OF VIEW OF ICELANDIC
SUPPORTERS OF NATO AND DEFENSE FORCE WAS EMPHASIS PLACED BY STUDY ON
NATO BASE'S "OBSOLSCENCE" AND INABILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE
PROTECTION TO ICELAND OR TO NORTH ATLANTIC. STUDY REPORTEDLY ALSO
MENTIONED THAT FIRST SOVIET THRUST INTO ATLANTIC WOULD BE TO
KNOCK OUT AIRBASES IN ICELAND AND NORWAY. GUNNARSSON
POINTED OUT THAT MANY ICELANDERS WILL WONDER HOW SUCH
A STATEMENT MATCHES PREVIOUS ASSURANCES THAT ICELAND'S MEMBERSHIP IN
NATO AND PRESENCE OF IDF ARE DETERRENT TO SOVIET AGRESSION AGAINST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00888 302046Z

ICELAND.

2. GUNNARSSON ALSO REMARKED THAT REPORT IMPLIED THAT AN
AIRCRAFT CARRIER BASED IN NORTH ATLANTIC COULD PERFORM ALL
OF THE FUNCTIONS OF KEFLAVIK NATO BASE ALBIET AT CONSIDERABLY
INCREASED CO TS. THIS, HE NOTED, IS ALSO PERFECT AMMUNITION
FOR NATO CRITICS WHO WILL NOW ARGUE THAT BASE IS UNNECESSARY AND

ONLY MAKES ICELAND A TARGET IN ANY SUPERPOWER CONFRONTATION.

GUNARSSON NOTED THAT ICELANDIC STATE RADIO WILL CARRY
AP REPORT TONIGHT AND ALL MORNING PAPERS, INCLUDING
MORGUNBLADID, WILL CARRY STORY TOMORROW.

3. IN EFFORT TO FIND SOME SORT OF CONSTRUCTIVE
RESPONSE TO NEGATIVE IMPACT OF STORY ON REPORT, GUNNARSSON
HAS A KED ICELANDIC EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO CONTACT
STATE AND DOD. GUNNARSSON APPEARS ANXIOUS TO HELP PUT
STUDY IN PERSPECTIVE AND REQUESTS OUR HELP IN DOING SO.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY IMMEDIATE
CABLE COPY OF PERTINENT PORTIONS OF CONGRESSIONAL STUDY
WHICH PERTAIN TO ICELAND AND ROLE OF KEFLAVIK NATO BASE
IN NORTH ATLANTIC SECURITY.

5. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE GUIDANCE ON
INFORMATION WE CAN PASS TO GUNNARSSON REFUTING ANY ASPECTS OF REPORT
WHICH COULD UNDERMINE ICELANDIC CONFIDENCE IN ROLE OF NATO
BASE IN DEFENSE OF ICELAND AND NORTH ATLANTIC.
CHRISTENSEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ALLIANCE, STUDIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977REYKJA00888
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770234-0463
Format: TEL
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977063/aaaaabws.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e66e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2064707
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL STUDY ON INADEQUACY OF NATO ATLANTIC DEFENSES: GUIDANCE REQUESTED
TAGS: MPOL, IC, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e66e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009